

Name:
ID:

CSCI 3104, Algorithms
Quiz 4A

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Instructions: This quiz is closed book and an individual effort. Electronic devices are NOT allowed. Possession of such electronics is grounds to receive a 0 on this quiz. Proofs should be written in **complete sentences. Show and justify all work to receive full credit.**

Please provide these:

Left neighbor name :

Right neighbor name :

1. **Standard 9.** Within the context of randomized QuickSort, (a) state the expected runtime (worst input, expected random behavior) and (b) the worst-case runtime (worst input, worst random behavior), and (c) explain what in the algorithm accounts for the difference between the two.

Solution:

- (a) The worst input, expected runtime of QuickSort is $\mathcal{O}(n \log(n))$
- (b) The worst input, worst-case runtime of QuickSort is $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$
- (c) While the best case choice of pivot, the median, only occurs with probability $\frac{1}{n}$, in expectation we will select a pivot in the middle 50% of the data half of the time, which gives on average $\mathcal{O}(n \log n)$ overall runtime.

In more detail:

We achieve the best-case runtime of QuickSort when the pivot is set to the median of the array A , and the worst case runtime when the pivot is set at the max or min. Assuming that we choose the pivot uniformly at random, the median itself has only a $\frac{1}{n}$ chance of being chosen. However, we can consider instead the middle 50% of A , i.e. the portion of the array that falls between the lower and upper quartiles. In this case, the worst case runtime is $T(n) = T(\frac{n}{4}) + T(\frac{3n}{4}) + \Theta(n) = \Theta(n \log_{\frac{4}{3}} n)$. In expectation, we only need **2** recursive calls to get a pivot that lies between the quartiles. Thus, on average, the height of the recurrence tree will be some constant multiple of $\log n$, giving us an expected runtime bound of $\mathcal{O}(n \log n)$

2. **Standard 10.** Hash tables and balanced binary trees can be both be used to implement a dictionary data structure, which supports **Add**, **Lookup**, and **Remove** operations. In balanced binary trees containing n elements, the runtime of all operations is $\Theta(\log n)$.

For each of the following three scenarios, compare the performance of a dictionary implemented with a hash table (which resolves collisions with chaining using linked lists) to a dictionary implemented with a balanced binary tree.

Parts (b) and (c) on next page.

- (a) A hash table with hash function $h_1(x) = 1$ for all keys x .

Solution:

The key is to identify the expected collision length since **Lookup** and **Remove** are of the same complexity with expected collision length. Please note that we are using linked list, so **Add** is constant, e.g., $\Theta(1)$ for all hash functions.

With $h_1(x) = 1$, the expected collision length is $\frac{n}{1}$. So **Lookup** and **Remove** are both with $\Theta(n)$.

